

T.H.
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people

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Drew Allen)
Serial No.: 09/985,719)
Filed: November 6, 2001)
Title: **Compression Bone Staple,**)
Apparatus And Method)

Group Art Unit: 3732
Examiner: E. Robert

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OCT 16 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified application please amend the application as follows:

In the specification

Please amend the sentence added by preliminary amendment before the first line of the specification to read as follows:

c! This is a continuation of application S.N. 09/500,060, filed 02/08/00, now U.S Patent No. 6,348,054, which is a continuation-in-part of application S.N. 09/299,285, filed 04/26/99, now U.S. Patent No. 6,059,787.

CONCLUSION

Applicant earnestly believes that he is entitled to a letters patent, and respectfully solicits Examiner to expedite prosecution of this patent application to issuance. Should Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

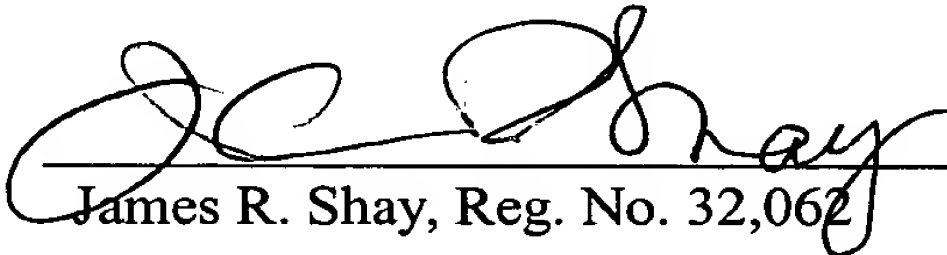
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including petition fees and extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-2415 (Docket No. Allen 701.502). A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI

Date: 10/1/03

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